

Appellants' Reply Briefs, filed on April 7 and May 1, 2008, are duly noted. The Examiner's Answer that was mailed on April 9, 2008, is a corrected copy of the Answer dated February 21, 2008, and not a response to either Reply Brief.

In Appellants' April 7 Reply Brief at page 2, Appellants are correct that the phrase "Patentees' dispersion" is in reference to the dispersion taught by Ortalano et al., as Thornber et al. disclose a water soluble substantive dyestuff.

Appellants' Reply Briefs have been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PATRICIA L. HAILEY whose telephone number is (571)272-1369. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo, can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 1700 Receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.

Art Unit: 1793

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jerry A Lorengo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793

/PATRICIA L. HAILEY/
Examiner, Art Unit 1793
June 9, 2008